

IN THE ABSTRACT:

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ABSTRACT

A clamping apparatus for an adjustable steering column for a vehicle includes at least two, relatively slidable plates (1, 2) that can be clamped relatively to one another. More than two plates can be provided to form a pack of plates. Alternate plates have relatively slidable, clamping surfaces that can contact one another, the respective clamping surfaces of the two plates being made of material of different hardnesses. In use, the softer material of one of the plates will deform due to the rubbing of the material of the harder plate and this increases stiction and friction, thereby converting friction into a shear stress load.

(Fig. 1)